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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

- Western Oregon and Washington—Showers followed by fair; warmer except near coast.
- Eastern Oregon—Generally fair; cooler.
- Eastern Washington and Idaho—Generally fair.

A CASE IN POINT.

The collision at the mouth of the Willamette River yesterday morning, when two busy, coast-wise steamers were badly injured and will be compelled to go to the drydocks for a month or two, at great expense to the owning companies, is a plain case in point favoring the use of harbor-room and channels that can be traversed at any and all times. In other words, if these companies were wise they would make Astoria their sea-terminal and arrange for the despatch of their freight and passengers up and down the river via the light-draft boats or the A. & C. Railway, and obviate all such contretemps as this.

It is to be admitted that accidents of the sort in the upper waters are exceedingly rare; but all the same they are liable to happen at any time, and down here they are not. Shifting currents and shallow channels are always liable to work just such mischief as this, and while we are glad no personal casualties are recorded in the event, we must deprecate the meagerness of the waters up there and insist that the remedy lies right here. Portland will never lose a dollar by reason of the change in the system; all the people and all the money involved in the traffic will go to her anyway and the "harbor" she labors so hard to make useful will cease to embarrass her and to harass her shipping-men. We are confident that she will yet see the expediency of making this port her marine depot for all manner of sea-traffic. Why not?

MAGNETITE FIELDS.

The good news comes to us that the careful and scientific work of Dr. David Day, the government expert, in exploration and examination of the "black sand" beach-fields of the Clatsop coast, is about to bear rich fruitage along commercial channels; that the immense deposits of magnetite on this coast are to be exploited large and profitably; that millions are to be invested in plants for putting out huge quantities of the finest steel in the world, and a new and virgin field of business is to be launched within a few miles of Astoria. All of which sounds good, and plausible, and profitable, and for the consummation of which we shall most devoutly hope, and, incidentally, strive.

The discovery of this peculiar quality of ore-bearing sand here by Dr. Day, did not cause any extraordinary interest at the time, but his disclosures were received with general confidence and the popular notion was that it was rather a question of time and patience, than one of excitement and ambitious booming. He was duly credited with the honor and value of his find, but no one seemed to know how to go at the proposition of taking hold of the venture and turning it to commercial account; and it seems that the wisdom and pluck and money necessary to the scheme, all had to come from remote Pennsylvania where iron ores and their working and marketing the common and best known of the popular faculties.

But, howsoever, and wheresoever, the means and knowledge shall come from, it will be of incalculable benefit to this whole section and state, and we are glad to be right next to the projected industry. We trust there will be no degree of disappointment nor failure in

connection with the big development and that it will serve to make its investors rich, and the name of Astoria and Clatsop famous the world over.

"A COMIN' AND A GOIN'."

To a man up a tree it looks as if the Brothers Hedges, the legal firm of Oregon City, where a' catchin the sports a comin' and a goin'. Hedges, the district attorney puts the lid on gambling all over his bailiwick and won't stand for any reservations nor back talk; and the other Hedges, the brother and lawyer, next to kin and business, says he can beat the law upon which his kinsman relies, and advises the gamblers to trust him to hold them harmless from the operation of the statutes and the constitution of the state. Perhaps there is no sort of understanding whatever between the gentlemen and each may be acting independent of the other, and in good faith; in which event we deplore the folly of the Brer' who is so sanguine about saving the gamblers from interference, and feel very for the official member of the law firm of Hedges who is thus placed conspicuously de trop before the public. If they are acting with any sort of agreement, then both are in a perilous attitude before the people and the law and had best get miles asunder before the matter is probed and made common cause against them and particularly against the brother who stands for the district. If the matter has come to pass without collusion, then there is still urgent necessity for the district attorney to clear his skirts and do his work in such manner as shall leave him free from the growing suspicion that they are working in concert.

It is an unfortunate mix-up, anyway it is regarded and will take some very sudden and understandable statements to clear away the fog of doubt hovering about it.

The Mr. Hedges who proposes to defend the sports on the ground that the Milwaukee charter has a provision permitting gambling in that city and that the legislature invested the charter with exemptive qualities, will find himself beaten to flinders when he gets before the supreme court and invokes such a plea. The Astoria charter has the same provision, but no one in this town is fool enough to imagine the upper court will sanction so gross an invasion of the constitution, which never gave the legislature nor any other element of government the right to nullify the criminal code of Oregon, upon any pretext whatever. He had better go to his brother for some straight tips on this situation, and he will probably get them, ab libitum.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE RUSHED

SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEPHONE COMPANY REPLIES TO PROTEST AGAINST SERVICE—SAYS ALL SPEED IS BEING USED FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

A reply has been received from Division Superintendent J. H. Thatcher, of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., of Portland, regarding the inefficiency of the local telephone service. At the instance of the Chamber of Commerce, Secretary Whyte sent a letter to him protesting against the condition of the service here, and received the following letter yesterday morning:

PORTLAND, Aug. 7, 1907.

"Jno. H. Whyte, Esq., Manager Chamber of Commerce, Astoria, Or.

"Dear Sir:—I am just in receipt of your very kind letter of August 6th (and for which I thank you), requesting a better and more up-to-date equipment, and apparatus generally, for Astoria, and additional lines between Astoria and Portland.

"We are well aware of the great desirability of what you ask, not only in the interest of our subscribers and the public generally, but in our own interest.

"I beg to say that all these matters are in hand. We sometime ago purchased a lot in Astoria for the purpose of erecting a building in which to house the most up-to-date central office apparatus, and I am informed that the matter is in the hands of our engineers at headquarters in San Francisco.

"I have just been summoned to that point and am leaving tomorrow night, presumably upon the Astoria subject. Should it transpire, however, that it is not the object of the summons, I shall make it my business to take the matter in hand vigorously, setting forth the necessity for what you ask.

"In this connection, under date of July 24th, our general superintendent writes as follows:

"I wish to say that the plans for the building at Astoria are being rushed by the engineering department; and they

EDUCATED CONSULS

Examinations Will be Held for These Positions.

THIRTEEN WERE SUCCESSFUL

Government Will Have Educated Men to Represent it Abroad and Look After the Country's Interest—Will Be Free From Ward Politics.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Uncle Sam is much in the position of the manufacturer whose factory is running smoothly, but whose selling force is not adequate to keep the warehouse floors clean. In other words, there is danger of over-production. The mills and factories of the country are working at high pressure—have been working at such high pressure for several years now. Once let the production overtake and exceed the demand, and there will be a relaxation of activity, a tightening of money and "hard times" will ensue.

The administration is cognizant of all this, and it is causing some uneasiness. Steps are being taken to avoid such a commercial crisis by the strengthening of the consular service, for the country's representatives abroad are the real upbuilders of foreign trade. The programme contemplates the removal of the service entirely from the realm of party politics and the placing of educated and carefully selected men in positions of trust.

This is not so easy as it would seem, however. The examination held at the State Department a few days ago proved this conclusively, for although fifty-four men were designated for the examination, only thirty-eight presented themselves, and of these only thirteen passed. These thirteen are now being coached in their duties by John Ball Osborne, chief of the Bureau of Trade Relations of the State Department and lecturer on the consular service at the George Washington University.

A noticeable feature of the examination was found in the fact that two of the successful candidates prepared themselves for the service at the George Washington University, taking the diplomatic course in the College of the Political Sciences. All of the others are college men, alumni of the Universities of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Cornell, California, Minnesota, Columbia, Iowa and Yale. Under the new ruling, candidates for the service have to understand at least one foreign language and to be well versed in the commerce and resources of this country; they must also have a good understanding of the commercial and political history of the world and be grounded in international, maritime and commercial law.

Thus it will be seen that the consular service is to be transformed into a keen, educated body of men who will be an honor to the United States and will uphold the dignity of the nation abroad. The politician and party worker will be eliminated, and foreign commerce made independent of ward politics.

Mr. Osborne only recently was given permission by the State Department to join the faculty of the College of the Political Sciences of the George Washington University. The permission was forthcoming when the administration saw what a decided aid such an institution would be in its reorganization policy, by supplying trained men who would be educated at the seat of government and under government experts. The "lucky thirteen" who are to be given positions in the foreign service average in age 34-1-2 years; seven have had some experience in government service; five have had business experience; four have served their time in journalism and three have done some educational work.

There are plenty more vacancies. Another examination is to be held at the State Department on November 20, 21 and 22 to fill such vacancies, while a special examination is scheduled for next week for the corps of student interpreters in China and Japan.

also have in hand specifications for central office equipment, as well as improvements to the outside plant.

"As regards the 'instructor,' our division chief operator, Mr. Littig, will arrive in Astoria early the following week and remain sufficiently long to thoroughly organize the force.

"I ask if you will kindly acquaint the honorable Mayor and Common Council with the contents of this letter.

"Assuring you of our intention to supply what you ask and just as soon as possible, I remain, yours very respectfully,

"(Signed), J. H. THATCHER,
"Division superintendent."

DIRECTOR ARRIVES.

Carlo Sperati, Noted Singer, is in Astoria Looking After the Chorus of the Saengerfest.

Professor Carlo Sperati, of Decorah, Iowa, arrived in Astoria yesterday morning and held a conference last night with the committee looking after the Norwegian Saengerfest. He spent the day going over the plans for the big celebration and approved of them as being in fine shape. He will leave for northern points for a few days and on his return will give his active attention to selecting the singers for the big celebration.

Professor Sperati will have charge of the singing in the Saengerfest, and is the official director of the society. He was shown over the city yesterday by President S. L. Nanthrup, and all the plans of the latter up to date were commended by him.

KICK FROM NORTH BEACH.

"ILWACO, Wash., Aug. 7, 1907.

"Managing Editor, The Astorian,
"Astoria, Oregon.

"Dear Sir:—Allow me to offer a gentle corrective protest against your news writers always calling North Beach by the town or village name of Long Beach. In your article regarding Mr. McMurray you state that he spent the night at Long Beach, which, of course, he did not. There is a useful lack of information in Astoria about North Beach, which latter consists of a fine beach about 20 or more miles long; and occupying this beach are villages and towns from a half mile to a couple or more miles apart. Actually, the little village of Long Beach occupies about a half a mile of this great ocean resort, while the other 19 1/2 miles seldom, if ever, get any mention in your attractive columns. But this is not an appeal for free advertising, nor advertising of any sort, for any particular village on this beach. It is just an honest effort to point out to you that the real name of this beach is North Beach, and the principal stations on the beach are Seaview, Centerville, Long Beach, Tioga, Breakers and Ocean Park, together with other small stations which might be correctly called platform stations, or stations at which the railway does not maintain ticket agents. I enclose you one of the live ads of Mr. McMurray to add a stronger voice to my argument.

"Thank you, very much, for your valuable time, but to give North Beach the name of one tiny little point on its magnificent length is about as equitable and correct as it would be for you to put Flavel in your title heading instead of Astoria.

"Allow me to state, in closing, that the writer is not a resident of Ilwaco; the latter town being my postoffice address, only. Very truly yours,

"A READER."

ESTABLISH COLONIES IN EUROPE.

CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Newburyport, Mass., says: "Mrs. Katherin Tingley, head of the Theosophist Cult, with headquarters at Point Loma, Cal., will sail for Europe on Saturday."

She proposes to establish Theosophist colonies in England, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany. This fall she will start a new England Point Loma at this place.

WANT COAL FIELDS DEVELOPED

VAST DEPOSITS IN CLATSOP COUNTY, NEAR ASTORIA, WHICH HAVE BEEN LEFT IDLE—DIAMOND DRILL PROSPECTING ADVOCATED

Local men interested in the development of Clatsop county, are anxious that the deposits of coal, which are said to be located at various points near Astoria, should be fully inspected in a systematic manner. Coal in large deposits are said to be located near Knappa and Nehalem, which if developed would be a valuable acquisition to the other productions of the county.

There are vast sections of Northwest Oregon which have never been prospected because of the heavy timber and dense woods which make an inspection of the soil, and what is underneath the surface, almost impossible unless considerable means are available for the purpose. The actual wealth of Clatsop county is unknown for this reason.

Citizens of Astoria have suggested that the county purchase a diamond drill for the use of prospectors who mean business, so that investigations of the numerous hills may be thoroughly completed. It is claimed that proper prospecting in the county cannot be accomplished without using a diamond drill, and as there is no persons coming forward with an outfit, it has been suggested that the county stimulate the explorations by furnishing the drill.

The coal deposits at Knappa have been developed slightly, but not enough to show their real value. The indications on the surface are very encouraging and local men believe that untold wealth lies in the coal deposits of the county.

As a means for drawing manufacturing plants to this section the development of the coal fields would supercede

all other efforts. If the deposits were found large enough, the coal supply of the west coast could be supplied from Clatsop county. This would mean the rapid development of railroads and the general growth of this section.

Men who have watched the growth of the state from its infancy, and who are familiar with the natural resources of Clatsop county so far as they are known, have the greatest confidence in the future of this section as a coal producing community. They have given it deep thought, but have never spent any money in further investigation. It is therefore up to the citizens anxious to develop the coal interests of the county to make some move in the matter.

Ten Years in Bed.

"For 10 years I was confined to my bed with disease of my kidneys," writes R. A. Gray, J. P. of Oakville, Ind. "It was so severe that I could not move part of the time. I consulted the very best medical skill available, but could get no relief until Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended to me. It has been a God-send to me."

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